

NOTICE OF FILING AND PUBLIC HEARING

D.T.E. 04-4

February 18, 2004

Petition of New England Power Company, pursuant to G.L. c. 40A, § 3, for exemption from the Zoning By-law of the Town of West Boylston.

On January 20, 2004, New England Power Company (“NEP” or “Company”) filed with the Department of Telecommunications and Energy (“Department”) pursuant to G.L. c. 40A, § 3, a petition seeking a comprehensive exemption from the Zoning By-law of the Town of West Boylston, Massachusetts, in connection with the Company’s proposal to construct, operate, and maintain additional electric substation facilities at Wachusett No. 47 Substation located at 53 Temple Street in West Boylston.

The Department will conduct a public hearing on this petition at the Beaman Memorial Public Library, Stiles Meeting Room, 8 Newton Street, West Boylston, Massachusetts, on Wednesday, March 10, 2004, at 7:00 p.m. to receive public comment and to allow responses to questions about the Company’s Proposed Project.

The Proposed Project includes the installation of five additional transformers (two 345/115 kilovolt (“kV”) autotransformers and three 115/69 kV autotransformers), eight 345 kV circuit breakers, nine 115 kV circuit breakers, the expansion of the fence line and the addition of two prefabricated buildings to house the circuit breakers. The larger of the two buildings would be approximately 180 feet long, 60 feet wide, and 36 feet high. The Company proposes to expand the existing Wachusett No. 47 Substation by approximately 3.1 acres within the Company-owned 14.26 acre parcel at 53 Temple Street.

Any person who desires to submit written comments may do so by filing an original and five (5) copies of such comments no later than the close of business (5:00 p.m.), Thursday, March 18, 2004 with: Mary L. Cottrell, Secretary, Department of Telecommunications and Energy, One South Station, 2nd floor, Boston, MA, 02110. A copy of such comments also must be filed with regulatory counsel for the Company, Paige Graening, New England Power Company, 25 Research Drive, Westborough, Massachusetts 01582.

Any person who desires to participate in the evidentiary phase of this proceeding must file a written petition to intervene or to participate in the proceeding with: Mary L. Cottrell, Secretary, Department of Telecommunications and Energy, One South Station, Boston, Massachusetts no later than the close of business (5:00 p.m.), Thursday, March 18, 2004. A petition to intervene must satisfy the timing and substantive requirements of 220 C.M.R. § 1.03(1). Receipt by the Department– not mailing or postmark– constitutes filing and

determines whether a petition has been timely filed. A petition filed late may be disallowed as untimely, unless good cause is shown for waiver pursuant to 220 C.M.R. § 1.01(4). To be allowed, a petition filed pursuant to 220 C.M.R. § 1.03(1) must satisfy the standing requirements of G.L. c. 30A, § 10.

Petitions to intervene also should be submitted to the Department in electronic format using one of the following methods: (1) by e-mail attachment to dte.efiling@state.ma.us; or (2) on a 3.5" disk, IBM-compatible format. The text of the e-mail or the disk label must specify: (1) the docket number of the proceeding (D.T.E. 04-4); (2) name of the person or company submitting the filing; and (3) a brief descriptive title of the document. The electronic filing should also include the name, title and telephone number of a person to contact in the event of questions about the filing. Text responses should be written in either Word Perfect (naming the document with a ".wpd" suffix), in Microsoft Word (naming the document with a ".doc" suffix), or as an Adobe PDF file (naming the document with a ".pdf" suffix). Data or spread sheet responses should be compatible with Microsoft Excel. All written pleadings or comments submitted in electronic format will be posted on the Department's Website, <http://www.mass.gov/dpu>. A copy of any petition to intervene also should be filed with regulatory counsel for the Company, Paige Graening, New England Power Company, 25 Research Drive, Westborough, MA 01582.

A copy of NEP's filing is available for public viewing during normal business hours (9:00 a.m.- 5:00 p.m.) at the offices of the Department, One South Station, 2nd Floor, Boston, Massachusetts. A copy of NEP's filing also will be available for public viewing at the Beaman Memorial Public Library, 8 Newton Street, West Boylston, Massachusetts no later than fourteen (14) days before the public hearing. Any person desiring further information regarding this Notice may contact the Hearing Officer at the address or telephone number below:

Andrea Saia, Hearing Officer
Department of Telecommunications and Energy
One South Station
Boston, MA 02110
617-305-3500

By Order of the Department,

Mary L. Cottrell, Secretary